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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/658,893	09/10/2003	Hisayuki Kanki	P1246US	3190
1218	7590	12/21/2004	EXAMINER	
CASELLA & HESPOS 274 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10016			WASHBURN, DOUGLAS N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2863	

DATE MAILED: 12/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/658,893	KANKI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Douglas N Washburn	2863	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-9, 14-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3, 6, 10-13, 19 and 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10 September 2003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1 The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-9 and 14-18 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tazumi et al. (US 6,392,537) (Hereafter referred to as Tazumi).

Tazumi teaches:

Allowing a number of automatic door apparatuses (ADA) to send ADA respective operating information to an administration center with apparatus identification information attached in regard to claim 1

(e.g.; column 1, lines 59-63);

Classifying ADA respective operating information in accordance with a apparatus identification information in regard to claim 1

(e.g.; column 2, lines 34-44);

Storing classified operating information in regard to claim 1

(e.g.; column 6, lines 56-59; figure 1);

Outputting stored operating information depending on a calling condition in regard to claim 1

(e.g.; column 8, lines 59-65);

Operating information includes a result on self diagnosis of an ADA regarding abnormality in regard to claim 2

(e.g.; column 7, lines 3-9);

A user is accessible to an administration center (AC) by communicatively connecting the AC with an information terminal device provided in a maintenance station which is assigned for the user to carry out maintenance service of a ADA, and wherein part or all of the stored operating information is transmittable to the maintenance station in response to a user's request of reading out the operating information through the information terminal device in regard to claim 4

(e.g.; column 7, lines 3-9; figure 1, element 32);

A sender which is provided on each of a number of door apparatus to send operating information of its own apparatus with identification information attached in regard to claim 5

(e.g.; column 7, lines 3-9; figure 1, element 34);

An AC receiving sent operating information and identification information of each ADA, and classifies operating information in accordance with the apparatus identification information, and stores the classified operating information for output of the stored operating information in response to a calling in regard to claim 5

(e.g.; column 8, lines 61-65; figure);

An AC includes a search section for allowing a user to make a search relating to stored operating information under a designated condition in regard to claim 7

(e.g.; column 9, lines 7-16);

An ADA includes a device for self diagnosing abnormality of the ADA, and a sender is operative to send, to the AC, a result on the self-diagnosis with information relating to occurrence of the abnormality when the result on the self-diagnosis includes the information relating to occurrence of the abnormality in regard to claim 8

(e.g.; column 9, lines 17-26);

An AC is communicatively connected with an information terminal device of a maintenance station which is assigned for the user to carry out maintenance service of the ADA, and the AC is operative to send information relating to occurrence of an abnormality and self diagnosis result to an information terminal device of the maintenance station which is designated in advance based on the apparatus identification information in response to receiving the information relating to occurrence of the abnormality and the self diagnosis result from the automatic door apparatus in regard to claim 9

(e.g.; column 9, lines 7-56);

A door open/close mechanism having a motor for opening and closing a door in regard to claim 14

(e.g.; column 5, lines 48-59; figure 1, element 6);

A sensor for detecting an object in regard to claim 14

(e.g.; column 5, lines 60-62; figure 1, element 10);

A controller for driving a motor of a door open/close mechanism based on a signal outputted from a sensor to open and close the door in regard to claim 14

(e.g.; column 6, lines 5-11; figure 2, element 14);

An operating information extractor which extracts, from a controller, a sensor state information indicating a detected state of the sensor and a door state information indicating an open/close control state of the door, as operating information of the automatic door apparatus, the door state information being cooperatively associated with the sensor state information in regard to claim 14

(e.g.; column 6, lines 24-30; figure 2, element 14);

A memory device which sequentially stores operating information extracted by an extractor in time-series in regard to claim 14

(e.g.; column 6, lines 56-65; figure 2);

Operating information includes signal information which is communicable between a controller and an external apparatus electrically connectable with the controller in regard to claim 15

(e.g.; column 7, lines 3-9; figure 1);

An ADA function of self-diagnosing malfunction or abnormality of the ADA. with a sensor or its equivalent while storing a result on the self-diagnosis in a memory, and an extractor is operative to extract the self-diagnosis result from the memory as the operating information for storing the self-diagnosis result in the memory device in time-series in regard to claim 16

(e.g.; column 7, lines 3-9; figure 2);

A monitor monitoring a malfunction, and an extractor extracts an operation history of the ADA from the controller for storage in the memory device in regard to claim 17

(e.g.; column 9, lines 17-26);

And an extractor extracts an altered designated value when the designated value set in the ADA is altered for storage in the memory device in regard to claim 18

(e.g.; column 9, lines 57-67).

Allowable Subject Matter

2 Claims 3, 6, 10-13, 19 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 3 recites, in part, "predicting a possible malfunction of the automatic door apparatus based on the stored operating information and outputting a result of prediction regarding the possible malfunction". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claim 6 recites, in part, "An AC is operative to predict a possible malfunction in a requested door apparatus based on stored operating information, and the AC includes a malfunction predicting section for outputting a result on prediction regarding a possible malfunction". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claim 10 recites, in part, "An information terminal device of the maintenance station is operative to visibly alert occurrence of an abnormality on a display section of the information terminal device along with contents on the abnormality in response to receiving the information relating to occurrence of the abnormality and the self diagnosis result". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claim 11 recites, in part, "At least one of client contact information and maintenance agent contact information is displayed in terms of link or guidance on the display section". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claim 12 recites, in part, "A history on repair carried out in response to the contents on an abnormality is visibly displayed on the display section". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claim 13 recites, in part, "Part or all stored operating information, or a result on prediction of a possible malfunction is transmittable to a maintenance station in response to a user's request of reading out the operating information or outputting the result on prediction of the possible malfunction through the information terminal device of the maintenance station". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claim 19 recites, in part, "An extractor updates contents stored in a memory device at a predetermined cycle". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claim 20 recites, in part, "An extractor suspends overwriting of operating information into a memory device when occurrence of malfunction is detected in an ADA, and retains operating information and self-diagnosis result before detection of occurrence of the malfunction in the memory device". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

It is these limitations, which are not found, taught or suggested in the prior art of record, and are recited in the claimed combination that makes these claims allowable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion


3 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas N Washburn whose telephone number is (571) 272-2284. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 6:30 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Barlow can be reached on (571) 272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DNW


John Barlow
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